**Popular Search Engines**

### Google <http://www.google.com>

Besides the general web search, you can search for images, view maps, or search news stories:

### **Help with Keywords**

### Synonym Search

### If you want to search not only for your search term but also for its synonyms, place the tilde sign (~) immediately in front of your search term.

Dictionary Definitions

type the word "define" then a space, then the word(s) you want defined. To see a list of different definitions from various online sources, you can type "define:" followed by a word or phrase. Note that the results will define the entire phrase.

Spell Checker

automatically checks whether your query uses the most common spelling of a given word. If it thinks you’re likely to generate better results with an alternative spelling, it will ask “Did you mean: (more common spelling)?”. Click the suggested spelling to launch a Google search for that term.

### **Help Refining your Query**

Plus (+) Operator

Google ignores common words and characters such as where, the, how, and other digits and letters that slow down your search without improving the results. If a common word is essential to getting the results you want, you can make sure we pay attention to it by putting a "+" sign in front of it

Related Search

To search for web pages that have similar content to a given site, type "related:" followed by the website address into the Google search box.

Fill in the Blank

Sometimes the best way to ask a question is to get Google to ‘fill in the blank’ by adding an asterisk (\*) at the part of the sentence or question that you want finished into the Google search box.

### Yahoo! <http://www.yahoo.com>

[Web Search](http://search.yahoo.com)

Find anything from across the Web

[Directory Search](http://search.yahoo.com/dir)

A categorized guide to the Web

[Image Search](http://images.search.yahoo.com/)

Find photos and illustrations.

[News Search](http://news.search.yahoo.com/news)

Search for news stories and related photos, videos and audio clips

**Ask.com** [**http://www.ask.com**](http://www.ask.com)

Allows searching by complete text questions or keywords. May search the web, images, news, maps, or videos. Additional tools include a dictionary, weather forecasts, conversions, and site preview.

### WebCrawler <http://www.webcrawler.com>

Brings the top search results from Google, Yahoo!, Windows Live, Ask and other popular search engines. It also provides multimedia results, including images, video, news, and local information.

### AltaVista <http://www.altavista.com>

Topical searches collect information into indexes, helping users refine their searches.

### Clusty <http://clusty.com>

Clusty queries several top search engines, combines the results, and generates an ordered list based on comparative ranking. This "metasearch" approach helps raise the best results to the top and push search engine spam to the bottom. Clusters help you see your search results by topic so you can zero in on exactly what you’re looking for or discover unexpected relationships between items

Dogpile  **[http://www.dogpile.com](http://www.dogpile.com" \t "_blank)**   
Dogpile is a "meta search engine." It sends your query to many search engines and can be useful if you are not finding the information you need.

### [AllTheWeb](http://www.alltheweb.com/) http://[www.alltheweb.com](http://www.alltheweb.com)

Search engine which indexes web pages, as well as multimedia, audio, FTP, PDF, and MS Word files from around the world.

### [MetaCrawler](http://www.metacrawler.com/) http://[www.metacrawler.com](http://www.metacrawler.com)

Searches the combined results of leading search engines.

### [Refdesk.com](http://www.refdesk.com/) http://[www.refdesk.com](http://www.refdesk.com)

Comprehensive index of Internet sites.

### [About.com](http://www.about.com/) [www.about.com](http://www.about.com)

Extensive network of sites by subject specialists who write articles, host discussions, publish free email newsletters and provide personally-reviewed links for each topic.

### Other Ways to Search

### YahooKids <http://www.kids.yahoo.com>

An entertainment and education site for children aged 6 through 12. It combines the power of the Yahoo! Network with a kid-safe search built on more than 10,000 Web sites vetted by their editors.

### Ask for Kids (schoolhouse) <http://www.askkids.com/schoolhouse?pch=sch>

Search tools, subject directory of websites, and homework help.

### [Delicious](http://delicious.com/).com <http://delicious.com>

Social bookmarking to help you save, share and discover your favorite sites across the web. Benefit from the work others have already done to find good websites.

### Internet Public Library <http://www.ipl.org/>

Directory of web sites by subject; newspapers and magazines; special collections; for kids; and for teens. All resources have been selected by librarians. Also has a “ask an ipl2 Librarian” service.

### Bartleby.com <http://www.bartleby.com/>

Full-text literature, reference materials, and poetry.